

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



## State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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### **INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

**RALEIGH** – Three foreign-owned North Carolina companies were recognized today with the N.C. International Community and Economic Development Award for their commitment to helping the state's non-profit community.

The awards, sponsored by the N.C. Department of Commerce (DOC), the N.C. Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service and the state Ports Authority, were given out by state Secretary of Commerce Jim Fain at a luncheon at Wake Tech's Business & Industry Center in Cary.

Businesses were selected based on the impact their company has made in their community through the success and recognition of community service programs, their executive leadership and commitment to community service, their corporate mission statement and values, and the extent of employee participation and service involvement in their local community.

"These businesses are setting an example of outstanding corporate citizenship," said Easley. "Now, more than ever, we need our business community to help in our schools, our communities and help promote an ethic of service among all North Carolinians."

Awards were given for three categories: large firms with more than 500 employees, medium-sized firms with 150 to 500 employees and small firms with less than 150 employees.

Companies receiving awards include: Nortel Networks for large firms, Schindler Elevator Corp., for medium-sized firms and EMJ America, Inc., for small firms.

"North Carolina is grateful to these corporate citizens that support the needed programs of the non-profit sector," said Fain. "These firms deserve special recognition because they not only encourage their employees to get involved, they also have management support and involvement."

**Nortel Networks**, whose parent company Nortel Networks Corporation in Ontario, Canada, is located in the Research Triangle Park and employs 5,000 North Carolinians. Nortel is an industry leader and innovator in telecommunications and information technology. Employees at Nortel have volunteered time and talent in a variety of local organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, March of Dimes, WalkAmerica, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and many area United Way agencies.

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